California GARDEN

10c

YOSEMITE FALLS
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

PHOTO BY R. R. MC LEAN

June 1934

Eucalyptus
By Eric Walther

An Old Fashioned Garden
By C. I. Jerabek

Drought Resistants
By K. O. Sessions

The Magazine . . .

"California Garden"

A Practical Local Guide published monthly
for more than 20 years
Subscription $1.00 per year

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May Meeting

The regular meeting of the Floral Association was held in the rooms of the Association on Tuesday, May 22nd, with Mrs. Greer presiding.

There was a good attendance. Announcement was made regarding the receipts and expenditures of the Spring Flower Show and the showing was sizeable profit from the show was gratifying to all. After transaction of usual routine business and the publication of announcements, Miss Kate Sessions gave a very instructive and entertaining talk on the flora of South Africa as exemplified by the plants under culture in San Diego. Many fine specimens of plants of South African origin were presented and identified. After adjournment fine canes of single and double poinsettas already calloused and started in sand were distributed at a nominal charge.

Announcement of Annual Meeting

The annual meeting and election of officers of the San Diego Floral Association will be held at 7:30 P. M. Tuesday, June 19th, in the Floral Association building, Balboa Park. There will be a series of brief committee reports and the election followed by an address by Mrs. Martha Phillips of Petaluma, California, on "Continuity of Bloom."

Mrs. Phillips is an authority on gardens about the San Francisco Bay region—lecturing at garden clubs, conducting spring and fall classes for garden development and advising regularly with home owners.

She has just returned from a lecture tour in Oregon and Northern California and is coming to San Diego as the friend and guest of Miss Sessions in time for the June 19th annual meeting. Returning, she has engagements with garden clubs in Los Angeles and Pasadena.

Mrs. Phillips published a practical book three years ago—"All Through the Year in the Garden," and lately "The Perennial Garden."

Financial Statement of The Spring Flower Show

Disbursements

Trophies, Medals & Engraving	$46.91
Ribbons	16.60
Certificates of Awards	10.25
Seals	1.79
Mailing Awards (Postage)	5.18
Advertising	16.00
Cards	1.75
Labor, General	26.00
Labor & Supplies (Clerks)	7.50
Laundry	3.39
Publicity	10.00
Premium List	9.50
Piano Tuning	2.50
Miscellaneous	2.98
Total	$160.35

Receipts

Gate Receipts	$452.90
	$452.90
Net Profit	$292.55

ERSKINE J. CAMPBELL, Treasurer,
MARY A. GREER, President,
Chairman Show Committee.

AMAZING VITALITY OF SEEDS

The amazing ability of certain seeds to retain their vitality under the most unfavorable conditions has recently been demonstrated by experiments of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, in which seeds buried in the ground for 30 years sprouted in two days.

Results of these experiments are valuable, in that they prove that seeds, especially weed seeds, retain their vitality after years of inactivity.

In 1902 workers in the department buried lots of more than 200 varieties on the Arlington experimental farm near here. The seeds were buried in small clay pots, filled with dirt. The first unearthing of these seed lots took place the following year, and since that time several tests have been made.

In 1923, the last test previous to the present one, 51 varieties from a total of 112 seeds germinated. This time 35 varieties have sprouted and most of these we usually consider weeds, although three common cultivated plants are represented. They are clover, celery and tobacco.

Some of the commonly known weeds which sprouted after spending 30 years in the ground are: Foxtail, smartweed, yellow-leaved dock, curled dock, broad-leaved dock, lamb's quarter, pockberry, bindweed, wild morning glory, jimpson weed, common plantain, ragweed and scotch thistle.

It is the plan of the department to dig up sample specimens at 10-year intervals, to determine just how long some of these weed seeds can stay in the ground and retain vitality enough to germinate.

The Spring Flower Show

. . . *Annual Spring Floral Exhibit Creates Great Interest*

Our late flower show on April 14th and 15th was very satisfactory in many ways—especially in weather conditions, attendance and financial returns. It was a very excellent show in the opinion of the workers and the visitors.

Quality was apparent in every display and the cool weather helped decidedly to maintain the freshness of the exhibits. That these flower shows are educational is apparent each year in the better arrangement of the baskets of flowers—in the vase displays and in general arrangement of the exhibits. The number of amateur exhibitors were very much increased this year which is satisfactory to the workers of the Floral Association.

There was at least a dozen new plant specimens or flowers never before exhibited which was interesting and should be encouraged more each year. The sweet pea display was excellent and specimens not so crowded in the vases. The baskets of peas contained the foliage with the flowers—so necessary for artistic value.

The iris display was poor—a good many named varieties but very few blooms. The vases of one variety made the best showing. The dry weather conditions were bad for iris. For the first time the Louisiana swamp most promising for successful culture iris was exhibited. This new variety is here in this milder climate.

The display of roses was the best ever for variety, and fine quality. There were several large exhibits from out of town. A National City exhibit won first for the best collection. A Rancho Santa Fe grower had a fine display. A commercial grower from Cardiff made a superior display. The Crusader Rose won first for best rose in the show. One full blown very dark red rose attracted much attention but it was without a name. The exhibitor said it was called a French rose by the owner. A basket of Irish Fireflame roses from Carlsbad took first prize. A collection of seedling roses—some twelve varieties was very interesting—one of which will probably be named San Diego after another year of trial.

The bulbous display was very small on account of the dry winter, but there were several newcomers never before displayed. Two were Mariposa lilies and a Brodiaea. Carlsbad sent in fine Anemones, a few good Ranunculus and a fine new white Ornithagalum and a low growing rich orange Ornithogalum. There were more cactus plants in bloom than ever before and several displays were made.

The Wild Flower display made by the Natural History Museum was exceptionally fine. In flower were Deer Ears, lupines, penstemons, mountain of snow, Kellogg's oak, the mountain lilacs—both light blue and pure white, dendromecon—that fine yellow shrub poppy, yuccas in bloom and many other specimens.

A collection of double cinerarias was very interesting but not as beautiful as the single flowered varieties. The four commercial exhibits were well displayed and one containing a choice collection of large flowering calceolarias for the first time exhibited was greatly admired.

Flowers arranged in suitable containers made a conspicuous display—white flowers in white vases and bowls—lavender flowers in suitable vases—copper and brass bowls contained fine specimens—one in particular was a large brass jar containing wonderful specimens of Tecoma Smithii. Conspicuous also was a silver vase with pale yellow glads and assorted blue delphiniums. Bechtel's Flowering Crabapple in a white vase was very attractive. Also the white vase containing the Silver Moon Rose with white dianthus was very fine and greatly admired. A large tray of a small white rose with excellent foliage, growing close to the ocean at La Jolla, was exhibited and its name asked for. One visitor was very sure its name was the "Keystone". Its good habit and freedom from disease makes it desirable for fence or hedge. Several parties reported they had it growing and it was exceptionally good at all times.

The display of gerberas and gladiolas from Encinitas was beautiful and makes one realize that intelligent culture gives results. The rock garden plants were well displayed by commercial firms and the potted succulent display was vivid in red painted pots. The central ornamental bed of decorative plants and water lilies arranged by the Park Dept. was as usual, fine in quality.

The display in the shadow boxes was attractive but nearly all made their designs too large for the space. The first prize was a pink vase with the single Dainty Bess rose and buds. The minature vase display was made by the Junior League.

The commercial display of fancy gourds was most attractive and interesting.

At the close on Sunday p. m. many flowers were sold, and tickets were given throughout the day on Sunday for a fine large Gerbera plant (donated by Mr. Harvey of Encinitas) which was won by a twelve year old girl.

COMMERCIAL FLOWER FORCING

It would seem probable that literature on the culture of greenhouse crops would be largely valueless to the California gardener particularly in Southern California, and such was the editor's immediate reaction on the receipt of "Commercial Flower Forcing" by Alex Laurie and L. C. Chadwick. (P. Blakiston's Son & Co.) A careful perusal of the contents however soon developed the realization that it was in fact a most concise, complete and authoritative work on floriculture, in general, emphasizing however greenhouse problems from the commercial angle. In reference to the latter however it is well to consider that commercial horticultural practices must above all be practical. This publication while scientific in aspect embodies the principles of applied science rather than theoretical. It is a text book for the advanced gardener covering practically every culture problem of the horticulturist professional or amateur.

Eucalyptus

By ERIC WALTHER

. . . Eucalyptus the Most Important of Australia's Xerophytes

MOST striking of California exotic trees, and likewise the most important and typical constituent of Australia's xerophytes, *Eucalyptus* is certainly deserving of more detailed discussion in our present series.

Of the 365 species now accepted as valid by competent authorities about one-third are of interest to us as potential timber trees, and while such species as *E. Aregnans* and *E. fastigiata*, in Australia attaining a height of upwards of 300 feet, may never reach anything like that size here, there are, nevertheless, many other species, as yet untried here, of great potential value for forestry purposes even in California. One of their more pertinent virtues is their nearly complete immunity (in California) from insect and fungus-pests, in striking contrast with our pines, constantly threatened with destruction by scales, mites, beetles, etc., or our cypresses now being exterminated by the relentless cypress canker, *Coryneum*. A more extended summary of the Eucalyptus species now grown here we presented elsewhere.* Most of these were originally introduced as shelter-trees, for their value as timber, etc., and only a smaller number were of use in gardens.

The common conception of Eucalyptus as an objectionable pest in any garden may be correct as applied to such rank-growing species as *E. globulus*, but there are quite a number of species sufficiently restrained in habit to be accommodated in any but the very smallest of gardens; and some of these are possessed of sufficiently ornamental value to be any garden artist's medium.

All garden design presupposes a background, a frame, or shelter planting, for which purpose the material now used may be adequate enough, but the monotony of this somewhat stereotyped plant material might readily be relieved by the partial substitution of the better, more colorful species of Eucalyptus. Well known enough are such things as *E. ficifolia*, *E. erythronema*, *E. lehmanni*, *E. leucoxylon* var. *rosea*, but they by no means exhaust the possibilities. Through the efforts of various individuals, foremost among which is Mr. Hugh Evans of Santa Monica, a showy number of species previously unknown here have recently been introduced to our gardens, and we shall now briefly discuss a few.

The finest is undoubtedly *E. macrocarpa*, native of the rainless deserts of the interior of West Australia, there known as the "Rose of the Desert", and now flowering for some years in the interesting and stimulating garden of Mr. Evans at Santa Monica. Its excessively silvery foliage exceeds in brilliancy that of the well-known Silver-tree, the peculiar shape and port of its leaves making the species a most unique item always attracting the eye of any visitor, in addition to which the plant produces large numbers of flowers, in the bud-stage resembling over-grown golf balls, finally erruptting into a mass of deep-rose stamens over 3 inches in diameter.

Scarcely less showy, and perhaps more useful when cut sprays are needed is *E. caesia* also known to us so far only from Mr. Evans' garden. In its combination of gracefully drooping habit, sea-green foliage, silvery buds, rose-colored filaments and golden anthers this presents a color combination not approached by any other plant we can think of just now. We understand that a limited stock of this is now available for distribution.

E. pyriformis is another, somewhat more rigid species, with dark green leaves, producing in season axillary umbels of three flowers, each of which reaches a diameter of 3 inches or so when the purplish-red stamens are fully expanded.

Also deserving of mention is *E. erythrocorys*, similar in habit to the preceding but presenting a novel contrast in its flowers. In bud these display a deep scarlet operculum or lid, a perfect foil for the bright golden stamens of the expanded flower.

Most curious and original of these newer species is perhaps *E. Forquata*, also from West Australia. This never exceeds a height of about 15 feet at most, its restrained habit makes it placeable in any garden, where the unique form of its buds never fails to arouse comment. These might serve as a model for any milliner seeking inspiration for novel decorative material, their peculiar excrescences defy explanation on any teleological grounds, and its soft pastel shades, ranging from the pale yellowish green of the foliage, through the salmon-rose of the closed buds to the bright coral of the clustered stamens, make a decorative effect which must be seen to be appreciated.

Another novel item is presented by *E. forrestiana*, first met with at E. O. Orpet's at Santa Barbara. No more rampant than any of the species just mentioned, this is distinguished by its peculiar fluted buds, greatly resembling the fruits of *Halesia*.

Of the older, better known species coming under the heading of "Garden species" we must also mention *E. erythronema* and *E. lehmanni*, but lack of space prevents a more extended discussion.

There are quite a number of other small, ornamental species, too recently introduced to permit of their recommendation; and of course in Australia many others await our appreciation. Let us hope that we may soon see more of them here in California.

The species mentioned present no particular cultural difficulties. Indigenous to almost rainless regions, some of them are bound to be impatient of excess moisture, especially in the seedling-stage. *E. macrocarpa*, for instance, does damp off most readily, but the usual precautions should prevent this.

More extended trials must be awaited before we can speak with authority on the hardiness of the different items, the sad experience of last winter, in Northern California at least, is too unusual to be an accurate guide.

* A key to the species of Eucalyptus grown in California", by Eric Walther, in the Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences, 4th Ser. vol. 17, no. 3, pp. 67-87, 1928. Obtainable from the office of the Academy at $.50 per copy.

An Old Fashioned Garden

By C. I. JERABEK

. . . *Hardy Mountain Garden Contains Many Surprises*

During the month of April while motoring in the back country near Julian, Mrs. Jerabek and I decided to stop at Rancho Shamrock to renew our acquaintance with Mrs. Williams and again look at her interesting old-fashioned garden which is not laid out in symmetrical beds but is planted more to transform the homely back yard into a bower of bloom and foliage.

The morning air was very exhilarating, in fact too much so, for as we stood talking I felt real chilly until the sun crept over the mountains and it became warmer and more enjoyable. The climate in this locality (though less than sixty miles from San Diego) is similar to that of our Eastern states therefore conifers, deciduous plants and a few of our native and more hardy exotic are the only ones that will withstand the frost and occasional snows that come during the winter months.

April surely is a month of surprises. The dormant shrubs come to life, changing their raiment of bare twigs and branches to a royal robe of fascinating blossoms of various colors. Then after the beautiful array of flowers has vanished comes the fresh green foliage. The bulbs and herbaceous plants that have been lying asleep in Mother Earth also begin to awake and emerge from the ground, first a few sprouts, then the leaves and flowers, a sure sign that spring's glorious pageant is here.

Forming a really artistic picture was the old ranch house, screened by three large walnut trees which were bedecked with new foliage. Near the southwest corner of the dwelling, a clump of dragon lilies showed their curious leaves, and nearby among the other delightful plants were peonies which seemed quite happy in this garden, but none touched such a high note of refinement or were more stunning than the brilliant red blossoms of the tree type (Paeonia suffruticosa).

Near another angle of the building stood a graceful bush of Kenia japonica nodding its branchlets, covered with orange-yellow blossoms resembling fat, little pompons. So few of these shrubs are grown here that we are likely to underestimate the beauty of its showy flowers.

On the north side, the weather-worn timbers of the dwelling were softened by a group of interesting shrubs, a Bridal Wreath with lovely white flowers, bringing to mind a fountain of snow This is one of the commonest spirea bush shrub with no rivals. Another charming bush was Viburnum opulus sterile, this also was a mass of snow-white flowers shaped like rounded balls. A good sized Syringa vulgaris, the common eastern lilac, with its bright green foliage and large, fragrant panicles of lavender flowers contributes brightness and perfume to the shrubbery. In this same planting are two other distinct and handsome shrubs, Weigelia rosea and its variegated relative whose mottled green and yellow leaves contrasting finely with the other dark-leaved shrubs.

Crowded thickly together beneath this canopy were violets, columbines, polanthus primroses the Oregon hyacinth with its small rounded bells of white, a flower always enchanting in its vernal loveliness and fragrance; and the Bleeding-Heart a perennial our grandmothers always grew and loved to have in their gardens.

Across the pathway another group includes a Russian olive, covered with a new mantel of silvery, olive-like leaves; Scotch winn, a fascinating shrub with yellow and bronze pea-shaped blossoms; two hydrangeas putting forth new foliage H grandiflorium and H. quercifolia the latter was of special intrest on account of its oak-like leaves. Two evergreen shrubs are also here, a Mississippi and a Hedge-hog holly; and scrambling over an old stump is a clematis paniculata, a most cheerful vine with beautiful foliage. It is a fall bloomer.

Beyond are four large bush honeysuckles, three of Lonicera Ruprechtiana and one of L. Morrowi decked now with bright green foliage and a fleecy cloud of cream colored blossoms. In the fall from these same shrubs will be hanging coral fruits resembling currants. Adjoining is a beautiful Philadelphus coronarius, the old-time mock orange well known to nearly every flower lover of the older generation, which they commonly called Syringa, a name misapplied

Noteworthy are Spirea Thunbergia, the first to flower but now past blooming; S. Billardi and Anthony Waterer were just coming into bud, but S. prunifolia plena was literally covered by small double white flowers that are borne close to the stems producing garlands of bloom.

The flowering quince was aflame with dazzling scarlet flowers; the flowering almond was quite conspicuous with its pretty rose or white flowers snuggled tight to the twigs.

More Syringas, somehow the old-time lilacs have a romance and memory that makes them almost enchanted things, with their long familiar delicate white, lavender, bluish-purple and other delightful shades of bloom.

In this garden are other shrubs that were just beginning to show life again and would be a blaze of color later in the season, including the crape-myrtles, astilbes and privets.

If you like to see a group of old-fashioned roses, very little grown now-a-days, but charming nevertheless, here is the place to find them. It is impossible to give the entire list so will only mention two. One of my favorites is the Moss Rose, not for the delicate pink blossoms, for their greatest beauty is in the mossy envelope that covers the bud and the calyx of the flower. The second choice is the Rosa de Castilla, the rose with a history. The flowers are large and almost single of the most exquisite pink, these grow on tall and quite flexible stems which nod in the breeze. A slip was brought to Santa Barbara from Mission San Luis Rey by an old negress in the early '70 and presented the girl, who later became Mrs Williams. Since that time there has always been a Castilian Rose in this lady's garden, a reminder of her childhood days.

No flower garden is complete without perennials and these are scattered freely in flower beds and shrub borders. Gay Sweet-Williams, iris, tulips,

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Familiar Friends in Distant Places

By ELLIOTT EVANS

(Continued from May Issue)

The car is feeling the altitude at three thousand feet, so we find a convenient spot to pause, convenient because we can be passed there and, heaven only knows where another such spot can be found. The view is stupendous. Even the high Sierras do not give the same effect of majesty and extensiveness. Here we can see for miles and miles, peak after peak, ten to fifteen thousand feet. The feeling of immensity is too overwhelming. Looking nearer at hand—the understandable roadside—we find, to our surprise and pleasure, the ageratum that we left blooming in our own dooryard. This is a little larger and stronger looking, the effect of the native clime, no doubt.

The small French marigold is growing in profusion. Within a few yards is a large specimen of the intriguing salvia patteris—I mean the very deep blue, large flowered one that we always hope will some day produce a decent spike—but never does! Here it seems to be the same. The plants however large and flourishing seem to produce flowers about the same as the common run in California.

Further on the narrow twisting road, yellow poppies and white ones quite like the Matillija only with gray thistle like foliage show that we are traveling through in their best season. Six foot Michaelmas daisies of deep purple are in every stage of development. Many are in full flower while many have already become seed covered. Six thousand feet and the verdure is strongly reminiscent of California woodlands in early summer. A tangle under oaks gaily draped with what looks altogether like poison oak. We meet there a very near cousin of erythrma crysta-galli. Vivid red blossoms, pea like, stretch over the banks on long shaggy branches, an unCalifornian touch but ver ystriking.

At eight thousand feet the lovely gray green weeping pines put in an appearance. Well spaced and dignified, they dot the steep hillsides and we seem to float along in their tops.

. . . *To Mexico City by Auto*

(The road from the summit into Mexico City is quite irreproachable except for a few broken bridges.) This particularly beautiful pine does not seem to be known in California. It has extremely long leaves that fall in a graceful curve from a long brown candle-like center. We are much pleased by the amusement of two Mexican bridge builders, who having no English at their disposal, begged a ride into Mexico City through their interpreter. Cedar and junipers proclaim the altitude along with the pines. I wonder if they would grow near the coast if they could be obtained. Possibly.

The country, after the summit is well passed, settles down to distinctly heavily rolling uplands, semi-desert. Mountains seem less formidable. Pleasant fertile valleys are under cultivation. Our bridge builders point out below us a destroyed hacienda, which we gather was overcome by fate about 1910. The Americans have left it and no Mexican has taken their place. Perhaps years hence that beautiful valley will yield crops. The cactus hedge survives ruin, however. In this part of Mexico it is as much a habit as a barbed wire fence is in Nevada, and is quite as practical, only more decorative. No post is too mean to support a flourishing hedge. The reason is probably that it is the easiest sort of a fence to have and to keep in repair.

The larger fields are a study in gold and blue green. Mile upon mile of perfectly ripened grain dotted far and near with large and small agave Americano, greet the eye. The agave flourishes and makes the wheat indifferent to a possible harvester. Carefully and respectfully avoided by the peon's sickle, it will eventually yield its juice for the staggering mescal. In the distance are white and tan cactus fenced villages.

Every village has its church and each church is beautiful. They are fascinating variations on the same theme, simplified baroque, always white and the largest buildings in the villages. Inside they are frequently poor and disappointing. They vary so in size that they trick the eye. A village judged by the height of its steeple may seem many miles away while in reality it is only a mile or less. The pepper tree seems to be native here and with the double flowered gray green trumpet tree, is all the tree life to be seen. The pepper trees are particularly striking. Beautiful specimens are scattered over the valley of Mexico. The poplar, which seems to grow anywhere, puts in its appearance, and we are nearing the City of Mexico.

The gardens in December are not at their best, but there are beautiful tree-shaded parks. Chapultepec Park boast ancient cedars that must have witnessed Aztec strollers in their shade. They are beautiful and impressive. Mexico is a charming, if confusing, city, not a little of whose charm comes from the extensive use of potted plants in all dwellings from the meanest to the most palatial. The pots are more surprising than the plants. In most cases they are common clay pots covered with putty and broken china and bits of mirrors. That in the place where the beautiful native blue and white pots, matching the distinctive Pueblo tiles, commonly used for house decoration, are totally ignored! But for Mexico's beautiful tree lined avenues, one can forgive much eccentricity in the way of flower pots.

The return trip is as beautiful and interesting, if not so filled with surprises. At present the possible stopping places are rather few and poor, so unnecessary stops are necessarily ruled out. Conditions are such that night travel is unwise due to bad roads and fogs which are frequent in the most beautiful part of the country. Nevertheless, our thirteen-day trip was a success, because there was so much of beauty and interest even in the dry season. One can only hope that one day the Pan-American road to Mexico City will be a year 'round route. Then, and then only can the wonders of jungle and mountain be revealed in their rightful profusion of blossom and green. The leavings of the season are of such great interest

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Floral Ass'n and Rose Society Supply Floral Decoration for Convention

By MRS. PAUL V. TUTTLE

The value of a floral society to a community was demonstrated during the convention of California Social Workers held in Balboa Park, San Diego, in May. When the hospitality chairman asked Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle, member of the San Diego Floral Association, to be flower chairman, she timidly asked if it would be possible to provide a bouquet of flowers for each delegate registered in twelve of the larger hotels. It was estimated that about eight hundred bouquets would be necessary. She was quite surprised when the flower chairman said, "Why, of course, it will be possible because I know my Floral Association and Rose Society."

A chairman was appointed for each hotel and he or she called on floral members or friends to make up certain numbers of bouquets and deliver them to a certain hotel at a specified time. The hotel managers were delighted to co-operate and received the bouquets, adding cards of welcome provided for that purpose, and had them delivered to each room. Needless to say it impressed the visitors who had come from all over California, and some from more distant points. Besides the bouquets, several association members furnished decorations for the many halls in the park augmenting the beautiful background of shrubs and greenery by John Morley, Park Superintendent, and Mr. Taylor. Outstanding was the decoration of the Russ Auditorium by Captain and Mrs. George F. Neal of the Naval Training Station. Mrs. John Nuttall provided flowers for the American Legion Hall on the opening day. A large basket of Ceanothus cyaneus and Matilija poppies provided by Mrs. Maurice Braun and Mrs. Alfred Robinson was a source of great interest to the visitors. Mrs. Matt Heller also assisted with flowers for Mrs. Edgar B. Hervey, who was in charge of decorations for the American Legion Hall. Mrs. George Abel had charge of the Floral building and Art Gallery. Mrs. G. W. Gardner responded to a call from the Red Cross to the Floral Association by collecting choice flowers and ferns which were arranged by a local florist for a large luncheon held at the Naval Hospital. Mrs. Mary A. Greer, president of the Floral Association, had the largest hotel registration to fill, providing about ninety bouquets. Forrest Hieatt, president of the Rose Society, helped by members, provided bouquets for three hotels. Mrs. Mary Ward, secretary of the Floral Association, took over the chairmanship at the last minute due to illness of Mrs. Tuttle, and carried the plans to a fine completion. Other hotel chairmen were: Mrs. Milton Sessions, Mrs. Delbert Morrison, Mrs. Denny Roult, Mrs. Elmer Muhl, Mrs. A. H. Johnson, Mrs. Eliott Colby and Dewey Kelley. The local social workers extend thanks to all members of the Floral Association and Rose Society for helping the entertaining of the delegates and impressing them with the beauty of the city in flowers from our gardens.

BIGNONIA CHAMBERLAYNII

Bignonia Chamberlaynii is a fine rival for our local Bignonia Tweediana because its foliage is superior in color and size and it blooms during the entire summer—Tweediana flowers only during April.

They both bear clear yellow flowers about the same size and are strong growers, clinging as they climb with a three-toed claw. If they can reach a roof and spread their foliage over it that is an ideal location, or if there is a chimney or a high cupola to reach there they will climb.

In the late fall or early winter all the loose branches should be trimmed off and only those that cling firmly should remain.

In April one tile roof at the Casa Manana hotel in La Jolla was brilliantly yellow with Tweediana, not a green leaf showing.

In Honolulu the Chamberlaynii is equally as brilliant for a long time. I secured a plant when I was there in 1926 and now it is growing and flowering well.

Tweediana bears quantities of seed but Chamberlaynii has not produced any—in Honolulu or here. It grows well from cuttings and branches on the ground take root like the ivy.

AN OLD FASHIONED GARDEN

(Continued from Page 4)

chrysanthemums, clumps of golden rod, also golden glow, hollyhocks and many medicinal herbs.

All lilacs have something sentimental about them and this garden is no exception. In the background among the native oaks are several varieties of conifers. A large Aleppo pine stands at least sixty feet in height. It was a gift of Miss K. O. Sessions, presented in a small baking powder can. A beautiful fir and a spruce when quite small were donated by Mr. McLean. A Torrey-pine and two or three other species were presented by Mr. J. B. Morley.

To the north the old weather-worn barn and packing sheds create a picturesque scene among the spreading trees. To the south are the meadows, the apple and the pear orchards now appearing in their spring array of new foliage and abundance of blossoms.

Mrs. Williams is a very busy person but if you are a real lover of flowers she undoubtedly will devote a few minutes to show you her garden.

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Drought Resistants

By R. O. SESSIONS

. . . *Dry Season Provides Opportunity for Valuable Observations*

This very dry winter has brought to my attention the plants that are looking well and flowering that have had no watering except the small rainfall. Leptospermum laevigata in large plants are in fine condition and showing a thrifty new growth. The Grevillea Thelemanniana and Banksia are full of flowers daily and foliage very thrifty. Most of the Acacias are looking well but they were shy of flowers and no seed forming except in a few species and one variety, the leptoclada has much seed but I gave that plant water a few times. My three evergreen Grapes are looking well, Vitis capensis Rhomboidifolia and hypoglauca—each is very desirable for their fine foliage and vigorous growth. The Junipers in evergreens all look well and especially the prostrate growers that help out for sloping banks in place of grassy lawns.

The Hakea pugioformis—that bush evergreen—is remarkable in its greenness at this season and so very fine near the bay and ocean, in Pacific Beach on the Braemar properties. The Bougainvilleas have been very showy—the Crimson Lake in particular everywhere has been remarkably brilliant—so full of flowers and an absence of green growth. The mild winter and dry conditions both have been responsible. Visitors to the city are charmed with its glorious color. We should plant it more generously.

The Blue Plumbago, established plants are holding up well with their flowers though the new growth has not been conspicuous unless plants have been watered. Our native shrubs, the winter blooming Ceanothus verucosus, the bright yellow tree poppy, Dendromecon rigidum has been very showy on Torrey Pines grade, also in my own garden. The Rhus integrifolia has in no instance shown a faded leaf but the Christmas berry is not looking quite as robust and fresh as it generally appears but it is holding its own, but generally at this time it is bright with new growth. The native wild cherry, Prunus ilicifolia, is in good condition. This shrub needs to be more cultivated and appreciated. The Eucalyptus corynocalyx or Sugar gum, the Polyanthemos or round grey-leafed variety and the Cornuta variety Lehmanii are all in fine condition and are three very wonderful growers under dry conditions They need care when very small and are first set out; and after their root system is established they are safe against drought.

The Mesembryanthemums have been shy of flowers but the dry winter has been most beneficial for seedlings to develop. The bare ground in my garden is well dotted with seedling plants in variety and many are blooming when very small and a few show variations in color.

The Aloes have seemed particularly generous with their bloom and some new varieties are later bloomers which is a desirable feature. The Aloe distans, the prostrate grower, and mitrieformis and grandis have been about the latest bloomers, also the border variety, minima, is now coming into fine bloom for May and June.

The perennial Statice plants have been flowering well also the annual sort, sinuata, in various colors. Euphorbia splendens is a remarkable plant for dry conditions, such a fine rich scarlet color and such free bloom. Geraniums also flourish and bloom well under dry conditions.

FAMILIAR FRIENDS IN DISTANT PLACES

(Continued from Page 5)

that we cannot help wanting to go back to see the full display.

The flower lover with an open eye can probably see more in the three hundred and sixty mile drive from Villa Juarez to the City of Mexico in the way of friends at home than on any auto trip of similar length. There is something about having, say a bilbergia, in one's own garden and then suddenly coming into trees covered with them, that is a reward for the tedium of prying customs officials, hard beds and roads that in many stretches would hardly be called roads at all in California.

Insecticides and Their Uses

By C. WALTER CLEMENT

. . . Successful Use Depends on Three Factors

The success that the amateur gardener has with his garden depends, among other things, upon insecticides. Successful use of insecticides depends on three factors: First, freshness of material used; second, proper selection of the insecticide for the insect to be killed; and, third, the proper application.

The best insecticides are those that are fresh. Investigation and experimentation has shown that all insecticides have lost from 30 to 50 per cent of their effectiveness by the time that they are six months old. Chemical reactions also take place that may cause damage through burn that might not occur if the material were fresh.

Another factor for the California gardener to consider is that insecticides manufactured in California are not only fresher, when they reach the hands of the ultimate consumer, but are also designed for California insects and California conditions.

The proper selection of the material to be used for the particular insect is important. In fighting insects there is no cure-all, as each insect requires a treatment all his own. If the amateur gardener will call on the County Agricultural Commissioner or other authorities who make insects a study, much wasted material and effort can be saved. Control of insects depends on the correct diagnosis of the insect problem and the correct application of the proper material to do the work.

Do not blame the clerk in your supply store if he sells you the wrong material. Many times an imperfect description of the insect causes him to sell the wrong cure, due to his not knowing the conditions existing.

Our Summertime Overcast Skies

By DEAN BLAKE, Weather Bureau

To the layman, there is nothing unusual in the overcast skies that are common to the immediate Pacific coast from late spring to early fall. He takes them for granted. To the meteorologist, however, their regularity offers a fascinating problem.

Every morning and afternoon that routine permits, an airplane carries an instrument that records temperature, air pressure and relative humidity from the Naval Air Station to an approximate height of 14,000 feet. From these flights we are obtaining a more complete picture of the height as well as the length and breadth of our atmosphere.

Among other things, we have learned recently that in summer when "high fog" prevails, there is a fall in temperature for the first 1600 feet, and then a rise to an average elevation of 4000 feet. The lowest temperature coincides with the top of the cloud stratum, which varies during the day, usually falling during the afternoon. If the stratum is unusually low, the bottom rests on the ground, and we have fog. The average temperature at the coldest point has been found to be about 62 degrees, and the warmest place in the layer above, known as the inversion layer, is 13 degrees higher. At times temperatures between 90 degrees and 100 degrees are observed.

Most meteorologists now agree that the highest stratum is part of the widespread upper air movement from the interior of our continent. It is hot and dry because it descends, and has its genesis over the warm interior. The lower, colder, moister stratum comes from over the ocean, and is cooled as it passes over the cold California current that skirts the coast. Clouds result from this cooling, but, due to radiation, form along the top, which is sharply defined from the layer above, and build downward. They dissipate from the bottom up, usually in the early morning. Because the sea breeze extends only a short distance inland, they are found only in the littoral.

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